

U.S.S.N.: 10/710,454

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04923 (LC 0159 PUS)

Amendment To The Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0029] with the following amended paragraph without prejudice:

[0029] As best shown in Figure 3A, the gear ratio between the first gear member 36 and the second gear member 38 is sufficiently high for triggering the switch device 18 with substantially little movement of the door handle 28. Specifically, the door handle 28 is movable a predetermined travel distance, which includes a switch triggering distance (shown in Figure 3A) and an unlatching distance (shown in Figure 3B). Moving the door handle 28 by the switch-triggering distance closes the switch device 18 and triggers the passive entry system 12. Moreover, moving the door handle 28 by the unlatching distance causes the door 26 to be unlatched and swung open. In this embodiment, the unlatching distance is substantially greater than the switch-triggering distance. One skilled in the art will understand that this feature provides a substantially high amount of time from the moment from when the switch device 18 is triggered to the moment when the vehicle door 26 is unlatched. This feature is beneficial for providing the passive entry system 12 with sufficient processing time for verifying the authorization of the user and actuating the locking device 24 [[44]] to unlock the vehicle door 26 before the user moves the door handle 28 to the unlatching position.